

Remarks

The amendments to the claims

Examiner will immediately see that the amendments are fully supported by the
 5 Specification as filed.

Patentability of the claims as amended

Claim 1 as amended now includes the limitation of claim 13, which has been canceled.
 The limitation consequently overcomes Examiner's objection to claim 13. Since claim 1
 10 is now patentable over the references, so are all of the claims dependent from claim 1.
 Similarly, claim 19 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 24, which adds
 the signoff table to claim 19. Claim 24 has been canceled. Claim 19 and the claims
 dependent therefrom are consequently patentable for the same reasons that claim 1 and
 the claims dependent therefrom are patentable.

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Claim 26 has been amended so that it is now a dependent Beauregard claim dependent
 from claim 1. Claim 26 is consequently patentable because claim 1 as amended is
 patentable.

20 New claim 27 adds the limitations of claims 17 and 18 to unamended claim 1, and
 consequently overcomes the objection to claim 18.

Conclusion

Applicants have shown that their amendments are fully supported by the specification as
 25 filed and have amended independent claims 1 and 19 to overcome the objection to claim
 13 and added new independent claim 27 which overcomes the objection to claim 18. The
 remaining claims are all dependent from claims that are patentable over the combination
 of Nixon and Brown and are consequently also patentable over the references. The
 amendments are consequently fully responsive to Examiner's Office action as required by
 30 37 C.F.R. 1.111(b). Applicants therefore respectfully request that Examiner reconsider
 his rejections as provided by 37 C.F.R. 1.111(a) and allow the claims as amended.

Applicants have canceled two dependent claims and made formerly independent claim 26 into a dependent claim; the total number of claims is now 25 and the number of independent claims remains at 3. Consequently, no additional fees are believed to be required for this response. Should any be, please charge them to deposit account number
5 501315.

Respectfully submitted,

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